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of Engineers

Boating Safety

Teaching the Basics of Avoiding Water Accidents to Soldiers

One Corps Serving The Army and the Nation

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Basics of Boating Safety

Single best way to prevent boating fatalities is Wear a PFD.

PFDs – Life Jackets

Type I - Offshore

- Extra flotation,
- Will turn an unconscious person face up,
- For use when rescue may be a long time coming

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Single best way to prevent boating fatalities is Wear a PFD.

PFDs – Life Jackets

Type II - Nearshore

- Cheapest and most common,
- Will turn an unconscious person face up,
- Uncomfortable, so rarely worn

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Single best way to prevent boating fatalities is Wear a PFD.

PFDs – Life Jackets

Type III – Flotation Aid

- More comfortable,
- Will NOT always turn an unconscious person face up,
- For use with specific water sports

Single best way to prevent boating fatalities is <u>Wear a PFD.</u>

PFDs – Life Jackets

Type IV - Throwable

- Ring Buoy or seat cushion,
- Good to have a line attached to it,
- Must have one on boats over 16 feet long

Single best way to prevent boating fatalities is <u>Wear a PFD.</u>

PFDs – Life Jackets

Type V - Hybrids

- Kinds that don't fit other categories,
- Inflatables and work vests included

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Single best way to prevent boating fatalities is <u>Wear a PFD.</u>

Life Jackets:

- Number Required
- Easily Accessible,
- In good condition,
- Right size for passengers on board
- Throwable required for boats > 16’

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Single best way to prevent boating fatalities is <u>Wear a PFD.</u>

Life Jackets:

- New styles more comfortable and no longer “geeky”
- Inflatables are now USCG approved

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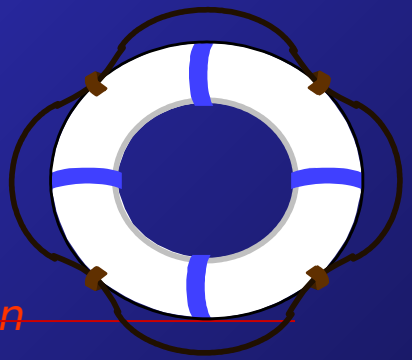
Required Safety Equipment on Board

- Life Jackets
- Proper Ventilation (Inboards & Inboard/Outboards)
- Boat Identification/Registration, Certificate of Numbers
- Sound Producing Device
- Fire Extinguishers
- Navigation lights if out at nigh



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Required Safety Equipment on Board

LIVES acronym

- **L**ife Jackets
- **I**dentification/Registration of Boat
- **V**entilation (Inboards and Inboard/Outboards)
- **E**xtinguishers
- **S**ound Producing Device

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Causes of Boating Fatalities

- Falling Overboard – ie, Standing up to Urinate
- Collisions
- Boat Capsizing
- Alcohol Use
- Exposure – Hypothermia
- Sudden Weather Changes
- Trying to Swim to Shore
- Basically – Poor Decisions or a combination of ther

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Best Practices on Board

- Basic Boating Equipment - Basic Tools, Oar or Paddle, Anchor, Boat Ladder
- Be Prepared for Unexpected- Flashlight, First Aid Equipment, Maps
- Let someone Know where you are – File a Float Plan
- Working Cell Phone
- Know the Rules of the Ro
- Easy on the Suds

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Personal Watercraft (PWC)
A Whole New Ball Game

- Extremely Fast
- Ridden by people with very little experience or training
- Does not Steer unless under power – Opposite to natural instinct of avoiding collisions
- Additional Laws for Opera
  - Must Wear a PFD
  - 50 foot Rule
  - No Night Operation

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The January Boating Fatality What Caused it.

- Inexperienced Boaters
- Life Jackets Not Worn – One was Non-Swimmer
- Did Not Heed Weather Warning
- Flotation of Boat had Been Altered
- Small Boat was modified and overloaded

- Didn’t Realize Danger of Hypothermia

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Boating Safety Summary

Know Before You Go!

You Train as a Soldier – You Should Train as a Boater

Wear A PFD!

You Gear up for Battle – You should Gear up for Boating

Think – Don't Sink!